Docket No.: 50212-207 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Toshiki TARU, et al.

Serial No.: 09/830,939 : Group Art Unit: 3743

Filed: May 03, 2001 : Examiner: not yet assigned

For: OPTICAL FIBER DRAWING METHOD AND OPTICAL FIBER DRAWING FURNACE

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231 JUL 2 6 2002 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each non-English language reference was cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

09/830,939

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 24, 2002